REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, and 4-12 are amended. Support for the amendments to claims 1, 2, and 4-12 can be found, at least, in Figs. 2A and 2B of Applicants' specification. No new matter is added.

I.   35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006/0288113 to Saunders et al. ("Saunders") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,974,218 to Nagasaka et al. ("Nagasaka"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1, 2, and 4, as amended, recite an image reproduction system having a preprocessing unit that "extracts static image data from the video data ... wherein the preprocessing unit extracts a plurality of static image data and each static image data has a variable time width." Claims 5-12, as amended, now recite the steps of "extracting the static image data from the video data ... wherein the static image data is extracted from a plurality of static image data and each static image data has a variable time width." Neither Saunders nor Nagasaka discloses or suggests these features.

Using the rejection of claim 1 for illustrative purposes, Nagasaka discloses a digest making apparatus capable of generating in parallel with recording of a video reserved in advance. See col. 3, lines 56-65 of Nagasaka. Such digest information allows content of the video to be grasped or understood at a glance. Nagasaka also explains that the digest pictures are generated concurrently with the recording of the television program. See col. 10, lines 46-50 of Nagasaka. Nagasaka also discloses that the shot-representative pictures are being extracted at predetermined time intervals. See col. 15, lines 46-67 of Nagasaka.

In other words, if a user wants seven shot-representative pictures in a one-hour television program, the system in Nagasaka would extract one shot of picture at every tenth

minute. As such, Nagasaka does not disclose extracting a static image data having a varied time width in the video that is associated with corresponding scenes from the video data.
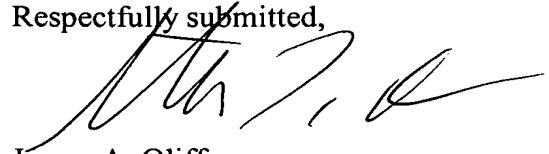
By contrast, claim 1, as amended, recites a preprocessing unit that "extracts static image data from the video data ... wherein <u>the preprocessing unit extracts a plurality of static image data and each static image data has a variable time width</u>." Nagasaka does not disclose or suggest this feature of claim 1, nor does it disclose or suggest the above-mentioned features of claims 2 and 4-12. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2, and 4-12, and claims 3 and 13-31 depending therefrom, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment:
    Request for Continued Examination

Date: January 5, 2010

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